

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

631206

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 17 June 1954

SUBJECT Eisenhuetten-Kombinat Ost (EKO) at  
Stalinstadt

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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The following is a status report on Eisenhuetten-Kombinat Ost (EKO) Stalinstadt  
(Puerstenberg/Oder):

1. Furnaces

- a. Furnace #1 - the iron casing was burned through at the end of November 1952 and underwent repairs for ten weeks. It was put back into operation in January 1953.
- b. Furnace #2 - was taken out of operation in December 1953 and dismantled completely. Six weeks were required to dismantle the furnace in order to get at the basic difficulties. It was reconstructed on a three-shift daily work schedule. The iron casings, although not burned through, were in such poor condition that they had to be replaced. The furnace has been put back into very limited operation.
- c. Furnaces #3 and #4 are still in operation.
- d. Furnace #5 is in operation, but at a reduced rate. The furnace, when it was first put into operation, produced 500 metric tons a day. It is now producing 100 metric tons a day because of faulty construction.
- e. Furnace #6 is still under construction. It will probably go into operation about 1 May 1954.

2. Production

Production amounts to 280 to 300 metric tons a shift, or not in excess of 1,000 metric tons a 24-hour day for the entire plant. The plant produces pig iron only, which is shipped to steel plants at Hennigsdorf, Ziesa and Brandenburg. The plants named are equipped with Siemens-Martin furnaces only.

3. Coke Supply

Coke comes by rail from Upper Silesia and is consumed at approximately the rate at which it arrives. Each furnace requires about 30 or 40 cars of coke a day. Each car is estimated to carry approximately 20 metric tons.

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The cars are unloaded by electric elevator. The contents are all dumped directly into coke hoppers. Only a few hours elapse between the time the train arrives and the time that the last coke car is unloaded. Coke reserves are estimated not to exceed an eight-day supply. EKO has no coke furnaces, nor are any apparently planned. EKO has received small quantities of brown coke, made by the Lauchhammer brown coke factory, East Germany.

4. Ore Supply

Reserves of ore are believed sufficient until resumption of traffic of ore barges on the Oder between Szczecin and Fuerstenberg.

5. The number of workers has been cut by 50 percent since November 1953, excluding construction workers. Before the November 1953 cut-backs the plant proper employed between 7,000 and 8,000 persons.

6. Construction

a. No additional housing units are being constructed in Stalinstadt; only those units with completed foundations have been ordered completed. Approximately twelve units are in the last stages of construction. Each unit, or block, contains apartments for 36 to 40 families.

b. Approximately 7,000 people are now living in Stalinstadt.

c. "Aufbau Stalinstadt" also released many construction workers recently. All construction was taken over by "Bau-Union Stalinstadt", with all workers living outside of the Kreis released. This was principally an economy measure to eliminate necessity for payment of special allowances to workers from distant Kreise who had formerly been paid tax-free daily living allowances of from four to seven DME daily depending on rating and marital status. These workers lived mostly in wooden barracks that had been constructed there for their use and for which they were required to pay one DME a day.

7. Unemployment

In the Stalinstadt area, consisting of approximately 22,000 inhabitants, up to eight percent are now unemployed.

8. Morale

Although disappointment over results of the Four-Power Conference is general in East Germany, there is no evidence of unrest or worker reaction against the East German administration; there is no evidence of anti-regime slogans, leaflets, pamphlets, etc.